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Amendments to Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A multiple component meltblown fiber comprising at least two polymer components which each extend substantially the complete length of said fiber, the fiber comprising between 20% and 98% by weight of a first polymer component polyester selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene terephthalate) having an intrinsic viscosity of less than ~~0.55~~ 0.45 dl/g, and poly(trimethylene terephthalate) having an intrinsic viscosity of less than 0.80 dl/g, and between 80% and 2% by weight of a second polymer component.

2. (Currently Amended) The meltblown fiber of claim 1 wherein the fiber has an average effective diameter of less than 10 microns, and wherein the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(ethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.20 to ~~0.50~~ 0.45 dl/g and the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(trimethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.45 to 0.75 dl/g.

3. (Original) The meltblown fiber of claim 2 wherein the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(ethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 dl/g and the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(trimethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.50 to 0.70 dl/g.

4. (Currently Amended) The meltblown fiber of claim 1 wherein said polyester first polymer component is poly(ethylene terephthalate).

5. (Currently Amended) The meltblown fiber of claim 4 wherein said second polymer component comprises ~~of~~ at least 10% by weight of polyethylene polymer.

6. (Currently Amended) A web of ~~multiple component~~ meltblown fibers, said web comprised of at least 10% multiple component meltblown fibers, said multiple component meltblown fibers comprising at least two polymer components which each extend substantially the complete length of said fibers, said multiple component fibers comprising between 20% and 98% by weight of a first polymer component polyester selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene terephthalate) having an intrinsic viscosity of less than ~~0.55~~ 0.45 dl/g, and poly(trimethylene terephthalate) having an intrinsic viscosity of less than 0.80 dl/g, and between 80% and 2% by weight of a second polymer component.

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7. (Currently Amended) The web of claim 6 wherein the fibers of the web have an average effective diameter of less than 10 microns, and wherein the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(ethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.20 to ~~0.50~~ 0.45 dl/g and the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(trimethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.45 to 0.75 dl/g.

8. (Original) The web of claim 7 wherein the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(ethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.25 to 0.45 dl/g and the intrinsic viscosity of the poly(trimethylene terephthalate) is in the range of 0.50 to 0.70 dl/g.

9. (Currently Amended) The web of claim 6 wherein the polyester first polymer component is poly(ethylene terephthalate).

10. (Original) The web of claim 9 wherein said second polymer component comprises at least 10% by weight of polyethylene polymer.

11. (Currently Amended) A composite sheet comprising:

a first fibrous layer having a first side and an opposite second side;

~~a second fibrous layer bonded to said first side of said first fibrous layer;~~

said first fibrous layer being a meltblown web comprised of multiple component meltblown fibers having at least two polymer components which each extend substantially the complete length of said fibers, the fibers comprising at least 20% by weight polyester of a first polymer component selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene terephthalate) having an intrinsic viscosity of less than ~~0.55~~ 0.45 dl/g, and poly(trimethylene terephthalate) having an intrinsic viscosity of less than 0.80 dl/g; and between 80% and 2% by weight of a second polymer component; and

a second fibrous layer bonded to said first side of said first fibrous layer, said second fibrous layer comprised of at least 95% by weight of meltspun fibers;

said composite sheet having a basis weight of less than 120 g/m², and a hydrostatic head of at least 10 cm.

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12. (Currently Amended) The composite sheet of claim 11 wherein

at least 10% of the meltblown fibers in said first fibrous layer are multiple component fibers ~~having a length,~~

~~said multiple component fibers having first and second polymer components arranged in a manner such that said first and second polymer components each extend substantially the complete length of said bicomponent fibers.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The composite sheet of ~~claim 12~~ claim 11 wherein said first and second polymer components of said bicomponent meltblown fibers are arranged in a side-by-side arrangement.

14. (Currently Amended) The composite sheet of ~~claim 12~~ claim 11 wherein

said first polymer component comprises between 20% and 98% by weight of said first fibrous layer and said second polymer component comprises between 80% and 2% of said first fibrous layer, and

said second polymer component of said first fibrous layer consists essentially of polyethylene.

15. (Original) The composite sheet of claim 14 wherein the meltspun fibers of said second fibrous layer are multiple component fibers having a polyester component and a polyethylene component, wherein the polyester component comprises at least 10% by weight of the second fibrous layer and the polyethylene component comprises at least 10% by weight of the second fibrous layer.

16. (Original) A garment comprised of the composite sheet of claim 11.

17. (Currently Amended) A multiple component meltblown fiber comprising at least two polymer components which each extend substantially the complete length of said fiber, the fiber comprising between 20% and 98% by weight polyester of a first polyester polymer component having a weight average molecular weight of less than 25,000, and between 80% and 2% by weight of a second polymer component.

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18. (Original) The meltblown fiber of claim 17 wherein said polyester has a weight average molecular weight in the range of 5,000 to 22,000.

19. (Original) The meltblown fiber of claim 18 wherein said polyester has a weight average molecular weight in the range of 10,000 to 19,000.

20. (Original) The meltblown fiber of claim 17 wherein said polyester is poly(ethylene terephthalate).